



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**Amendment**

LCO No. 5644

**\*HB0542005644HD0\***

Offered by:

REP. MERRILL, 54<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ROY, 119<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. HURLBURT, 53<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. MINER, 66<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. CHAPIN, 67<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5420

File No. 280

Cal. No. 155

(As Amended by House Amendment Schedule "A")

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION FROM THE TEN MIL PROGRAM IN 2011."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 23-20 of the 2010 supplement to the general  
4 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
5 (*Effective from passage*):

6 (a) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall administer  
7 the statutes relating to forestry and the protection of forests. The  
8 commissioner may: [employ] (1) Employ such field and office  
9 assistants as may be necessary for the execution of his or her duties, [.]  
10 The commissioner may,] (2) from time to time, publish the forestry

11 laws of the state and other literature of general interest and practical  
12 value pertaining to forestry, [ The commissioner may] (3) enter into  
13 cooperation with departments of the federal government for the  
14 promotion of forest resource management and protection within the  
15 state, [ The commissioner may,] and (4) with the assistance of the State  
16 Forester, develop and administer plans for the protection and  
17 management of publicly owned woodlands. Such plans shall include,  
18 but not be limited to, proposals for the establishment of forest  
19 plantations and the marketing of forest products.

20 (b) Not later than January 10, 2010, the commissioner shall apply to  
21 have publicly owned woodlands or products from such woodlands  
22 certified or licensed under one or more of the following, provided the  
23 commissioner uses private funding from gifts, donations or bequests,  
24 as authorized in this section, for the cost of all such applications: (1)  
25 The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program, (2) the American Tree  
26 Farm System, (3) the Canadian Standards Association's Sustainable  
27 Management System Standards, (4) the Finnish Standard, (5) the Forest  
28 Stewardship Council, (6) the Pan-European Forest Certification  
29 Program, (7) the Swedish Standards, (8) the United Kingdom  
30 Woodland Assurance Scheme, (9) the Smart Wood Program, as  
31 administered by the Rainforest Alliance, or (10) any other programs  
32 deemed necessary, as determined by the commissioner. The  
33 commissioner shall implement any sustainable forestry practice  
34 necessary for such certification or licensure. The commissioner may  
35 accept, on behalf of the Department of Environmental Protection, any  
36 gifts, donations or bequests for the purposes of applying for and  
37 obtaining such certification or licensure.

38 (c) (1) The commissioner may harvest forest products from  
39 woodlands owned by the state and take such other measures as [he or  
40 she] the commissioner deems necessary for [their] the efficient  
41 management and protection [,] of such woodlands and may sell wood,  
42 timber and other products from any state woodlands whenever [he or  
43 she] the commissioner deems such sales desirable and may develop  
44 recreational facilities in the woodlands managed by the Department of

45 Environmental Protection. The commissioner shall charge no less than  
46 ten dollars per cord for any such wood or timber sold as fuel.

47 (2) There is established a separate, nonlapsing account within the  
48 General Fund to be known as the "timber harvesting revolving  
49 account". Proceeds from the harvest of timber shall be deposited in  
50 such account. The commissioner may use moneys in such account for  
51 the purpose of developing forest management plans to guide the  
52 harvest of timber from woodlands and for all reasonable direct  
53 expenses relating to the administration and operation of such plans.  
54 The commissioner may accept, on behalf of the Department of  
55 Environmental Protection, any gifts, donations or bequests for the  
56 purposes of depositing such funds into the timber harvesting  
57 revolving account. The account shall not exceed one hundred  
58 thousand dollars. Any remaining proceeds shall be deposited in the  
59 General Fund.

60 (d) The commissioner may rent state forest property and buildings  
61 thereon under his or her jurisdiction for a period not exceeding  
62 twenty-five years, provided any lease for such property and building  
63 for a term of more than ten years shall be subject to the review and  
64 approval of the State Properties Review Board. The proceeds of such  
65 sales, rentals and any receipts resulting from management of the state  
66 forests, or from reimbursements from other state departments or state  
67 institutions, shall be deposited in the General Fund in accordance with  
68 the provisions of section 4-32. Expenditures incurred by the  
69 commissioner for the protection, management and development of the  
70 forests, the preparation and marketing of forest products and the  
71 acquisition of land for the extension and completion of the state forests  
72 as provided in section 23-21 may be paid with moneys appropriated  
73 from the General Fund.

74 (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to land owned or  
75 managed by the state on which forest resource management measures  
76 may be restricted by deed, statute, or incompatible use. As used in this  
77 section, woodland means land owned or managed by a state agency

78    and stocked with forest tree species not less than six hundred stems  
79    per acre and at least one year old."